

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 AEC-05 AF-04 ARA-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EA-06 EUR-12 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 IO-10 L-02

NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

RSC-01 OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /109 W

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R 191135Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0312

INFO USUN NEW YORK 3623

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9322

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM TECH UN

SUBJECT: DISARMAMENT: MIDDLE EAST NUCLEAR FREE ZONE
(MENFZ) PROPOSAL

REF: USUN 4717 AND 4875; STATE 251393

1. IN MEETING WITH FAHMY, NOVEMBER 18, HE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN AT USUN'S ACTION IN PERSUADING IRANIAN DEL TO REVISE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF MENFZ AS INITIALLY CO-SPONSORED BY IRAN AND EGYPT. RECALLING THAT USG HAS IN PAST PRESSED FOR ADHERENCE OF ALL STATES TO NPT, FAHMY PROFESSED TO SEE USUN ACTION INCONSISTENT WITH THAT AVOWED OBJECTIVE. HE WONDERED IF USG REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT NPT OR NOT. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE NOTED THAT ISRAEL HAS NOT YET SIGNED NPT, WHICH CAUSES GREAT UNEASINESS AMONG ARAB STATES AND IS A POTENTIAL THREAT TO ME PEACE. EGYPT CAN IN DUE COURSE ACQUIRE SUCH CAPABILITY, BUT WOULD NOT WISH TO DO SO EXCEPT IN FACE OF ISRAELI PROVOCATION. PURPOSE OF IRANIAN-EGYPTIAN SPONSORED MENFZ RESOLUTION, HE DECLARED, IS TO PREVENT MIDDLE EAST FROM BECOMING A NUCLEAR BATTLEGROUND. PRESUMABLY ALL STATES INTERESTED IN ME PEACE SHOULD HAVE AN INTEREST IN THIS OBJECTIVE.

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2. HE WAS SHARPLY CRITICAL, MOREOVER, THAT WE HAD WORKED BEHIND EGYPTIAN BACKS IN PERSUADING IRANIANS TO REVISE THE PARAGRAPH. USG AND GOE HAD AGREED TO COORDINATE POLICIES, BUT NOW USUN IS WORKING AGAINST "OUR BEST INTERESTS."

3. I ASSURED FAHMY THAT OUR INTEREST IN NPT REMAINS UNCHANGED. WE SIMPLY QUESTION WHETHER IT IS APPROPRIATE TO ASK STATES TO ASSUME SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES IN SUCH A RESOLUTION BEFORE THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN FULLY CONSIDERED OR THE OBLIGATIONS PROVED TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO SOME STATES IN THE REGION. CONTENDING THIS ARGUMENT IS IRRELEVANT, FAHMY AGAIN ASKED DOES USG SUPPORT THE NPT OR NOT? IF IT DOES, IT IS INCUMBENT UPON USG TO WORK ON REGIONAL STATES, INCLUDING ISRAEL, TO ADHERE TO IT. IF NOT, THEN USG SHOULD SAY SO AND ALL AREA STATES CAN TAKE THEIR CUE FROM THAT. IN FACT, US, UK AND USSR SHOULD COSPONSOR SUCH A RESOLUTION.

4. FAHMY THEN GOT TO HIS POINT. HE INDICATED EGYPTDEL IS BEING INSTRUCTED TO INCLUDE IN THE PRESENT DRAFT A PARAGRAPH "INVITING" COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT YET ADHERED TO THE NPT TO DO SO "ASAP" AND REQUESTING THE SYG TO SUBMIT A REPORT ON THE SUBJECT. HE ARGUED THIS SHOULD SATISFY USG CONCERNS AND HOPED USG WILL SUPPORT SUCH LANGUAGE. FINALLY, HE HOPED THAT HENCEFORTH THERE WILL BE GREATER "COORDINATION" BETWEEN USUN AND EGYPTDEL ON MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST.

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